

## Community resources

[Follow us on Twitter](#) [Check our Reddit](#) [Twitter this](#) [Digg this page](#) [Contact us on IRC](#)

*courage is contagious*

## Viewing cable 09STATE52499, CYPRUS - UPCOMING MANPADS DESTRUCTION EVENT

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

### Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

### Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#09STATE52499**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
<a href="#">09STATE52499</a>	<a href="#">2009-05-21 21:01</a>	<a href="#">2011-08-30 01:44</a>	<a href="#">SECRET//NOFORN</a>	<a href="#">Secretary of State</a>

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.tanea.gr>

R 212101Z MAY 09  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

S E C R E T STATE 052499

NOFORN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/21/2019  
TAGS: [PARM](#) [PERM](#) [PETR](#) [PREL](#) [CY](#)  
SUBJECT: CYPRUS - UPCOMING MANPADS DESTRUCTION EVENT

REF: A. IIR 6 823 0080 09

Classified By: EUR DAS, Acting, Anita Friedt, E.O.12958,  
1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (U) This is an action request. Please see para 6 below.

¶2. (C) SUMMARY. A team of U.S. and UK technical experts, in a multilateral effort under Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) auspices, will assist the Republic of Cyprus (RoC) with the destruction of 324 MANPADS and 101 associated gripstocks during demolition

operations June 9-12, 2009. This assistance is the next step in the U.S.-UK-led, OSCE-facilitated response to a request from the ROC Defense Minister for technical assistance and capacity building. The PM/WRA representative will use this opportunity to offer the ROC additional bilateral assistance with future reduction of excess weapons and unstable munitions, as well as improvements to physical security and stockpile management of retained stocks. End Summary.

#### GOALS

¶3. (C) Washington intends to complement the current MANPADS reduction project with an offer of further U.S. bilateral assistance. This would include the destruction of excess or outdated small arms and light weapons (SA/LW) and unstable munitions in Cyprus, as well as improvements in physical security and stockpile management (PSSM). Ideally this assistance would be in the form of U.S.-Cyprus bilateral cooperation; however, future OSCE-facilitated efforts that would transition to a U.S.-Cyprus mechanism could be possible.

¶4. (C) A bilateral approach to SA/LW destruction and PSSM improvement in Cyprus follows longstanding USG policy to facilitate the demilitarization of the island. Following on the positive meeting between Secretary Clinton and FM Kyprianou in Washington April 20, this cooperation would demonstrate USG support for the ongoing Cyprus negotiations and desire for an enhanced bilateral relationship.

¶5. (S//NF) The Intelligence Community (IC) is very interested in the possibility of acquiring French-made MISTRAL MANPADS. Intelligence suggests there are 65 MISTRALS in Cyprus; the IC has previously been unable to acquire a MISTRAL. Efforts to this end would be a long-term goal of this cooperation and would be coordinated through PM, EUR, Embassy Nicosia, and the CIA's Counterterrorism Center.

#### NEXT STEP/ACTION REQUEST

¶6. (C) Washington requests that Embassy Nicosia set up a meeting with the appropriate parties within the ROC to discuss possible bilateral cooperation for the destruction of excess or outdated conventional weapons and unstable munitions and improvement of PSSM for retained stocks. The desired date for the meeting is June 10, 2009 as PM/WRA will have a representative available in Cyprus on that date. Department requests Embassy Nicosia approach host nation and respond by June 1, 2009.

#### BACKGROUND

¶7. (SBU) On October 29, 2008, the Defense Minister of the ROC made a formal request to the OSCE for technical assistance with the destruction of 324 SA-7 MANPADS and 101 associated gripstocks. The ROC accepted British and U.S. destruction expertise offered under an OSCE flag. An initial assessment and project development visit took place March 10-12, 2009. The PM/WRA representative reported that the trip went smoothly, and the U.S. and UK experts were impressed by the excellent cooperation and support from the Cypriot National Guard. At that time, dates were set for a test destruction on March 20, 2009 and the complete destruction operations on June 9-12, ¶2009. The March 20, 2009 test destruction went smoothly and the team is still planning to assist the ROC in destroying the rest of the aging stockpile in June. In response to ROC's request, a major element of the June destruction event will be enhancing ROC domestic capabilities for stockpile reduction. The OSCE report also recommended a follow-on effort focused on PSSM that would be managed by the U.S.

#### CLINTON